



WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 18, 1900.

It is observed that in nearly all the city, county and district democratic meetings in which resolutions in favor of making the call for a constitutional convention a party question are fully discussed, they are defeated, and that in many of them in which they are not debated, they are adopted without objection. This is natural. Most of the intelligent and disinterested democrats of the State are in favor of amending the existing constitution, and ill-considered resolutions, and would vote to amend it at any other time than the present; for they well know that the whole republican, and no inconsiderable portion of the democratic vote would be cast against it, and that its defeat would give their party a "black eye," and also, that raising the question now, on the eve of a Presidential and Congressional election, when the democrats are not of one mind on it, would almost necessarily tend to create differences that could not help provoking animosities that would hurt the party at elections for officers. A constitutional convention should not be a political affair, but one for the good of every body in the State, republican as well as democrat, and black as well as white; and surely the democrats having every thing in the State in their own hands, now, could not possibly suffer by letting the question referred to alone, at least until after next November's election. Many Virginia people, though they have free schools and cheap newspapers, don't understand things as well as they might, but when they have what they read and talk about properly explained to them, they generally manage to vote the right way.

Mr. HOAR provoked the wrath of many republicans by his speech in the U. S. Senate yesterday, and gained friends among the democrats, so that for himself and those who agree with him his speech may as well have been undelivered. What he said about the sudden and remarkable change in the policy of the administration—for it has no principle—is all true, but was as inoperative as if spoken to dead men. The republicans are for loot now, and it is as dangerous for one of their own party to try to restrain them as it is for a spectator to attempt to stop a runaway horse.

IN THE earlier and better days of the country the honor of the men who wore its uniform was above reproach; but all that was changed during the war between the States, and apparently will never again be as it was. The highest officers of the army and navy are now charged with corruption and some of them are court martialled and dismissed, and so late as yesterday it was stated on the floor of Congress that an officer in the U. S. army is responsible for the steel plate trust.

GOVERNOR TYLER is in favor of making the call for a constitutional convention a party question. But the Governor was firmly convinced that the people of the State wanted him to represent them in the United States Senate; and, then, too he made haste to sign the bill creating commissioners of valuation, and besides, he recalled the troops from Emporia. To the regret of many of his well-wishers, the Governor has succeeded in making himself very unpopular.

AMERICAN rule has proved as disastrous to Hawaii as it has to Cuba and Porto Rico. Before the "blessings" of American institutions and civilization were enforced there, the people of Hawaii were quiet, peaceful, contented and happy. But now they are anything else. Oriental, is now crowding out native labor, and violent strikes have become the order of the day there. But the Northern beach-comers have profited, and that is all that was desired.

THE DEMOCRATS of Alabama must be in a bad way, when they elect an expansionist and Imperialist and a man in favor of giving some Northern schemers hundreds of millions of dollars for a canal through foreign territory to the U. S. Senate, and their governor has to wait until requested by General Wheeler, to order an election to fill the vacancy in Congress that has existed ever since the General accepted a commission in the U. S. army.

IF MR. BAILEY be the next U. S. Senator from Texas, of which there has long seemed to be little doubt, there will not only be a good and true, but a young democrat in that body, to make an able defense of the principles and policies of the democratic party, but strong enough to make that defense effective, and who will not be subject to the malign influence of Presidential favors.

DR. MCGUIRE TAKEN TO THE COUNTY.—Dr. Hunter McGuire was strong enough yesterday to be removed to his country place, on the northern shore. He is considered to be in an improved condition, and it is hoped that improvement will now be much more rapid. [Richmond Dispatch.]

FROM WASHINGTON.

(Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.)

Washington, April 18.

Congressman Wheeler of Kentucky called on Admiral Dewey today and presented to him an invitation to visit the people of Paducah, Ky. The invitation is printed on a thin sheet of curly beech and is worded as follows: "To Admiral and Mrs. Dewey. This town is yours. Pull the latchstring—we will do the rest. Don't surprise us, but inform us when you pull." This invitation is in an ornate case, with handles of gold and corner pieces of silver. On the lid, plate inscribed "Welcome to Admiral and Mrs. Dewey." The box contains also twelve quart bottles of twenty-year old Kentucky whiskey, and a cutglass decanter encased in silver. Admiral Dewey expressed himself as being delighted with the invitation and said that he would not be able to visit Paducah on his trip west in May, the itinerary for that journey having been made up. He would be glad to go there later and might possibly arrange to go to Paducah in June when he makes his trip to Ohio.

It is generally expected that Representative Richardson of Tennessee, the democratic leader in the House, will be chosen to act as permanent chairman of the national democratic convention. He officiated in this capacity for much of the time during the last convention which nominated Bryan. For temporary chairman the following named are suggested: Elliott Denforth, New York; ex-Governor Pattison, Pennsylvania; Representative Daly, New Jersey; Carter Harrison, Illinois; Mayor Teggert, Indianapolis; ex-Governor Campbell or Tom Johnson, Ohio.

It is said that ex-Congressman C. W. Stone, of Pennsylvania, is likely to be selected by the President to succeed Webster Davis as Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

The prominent New Jersey democrat, talking of the congressional State convention of his party, said the following would probably be the four delegates-at-large to the Kansas City convention: Robt. Davis John Cornish, ex-Congressman Thos. Farrell and ex-Governor of Arizona Zulick. If Davis does not want to serve, Congressman Daly will probably take his place. The delegates, he thought would be instructed for Bryan, but would receive no instructions as to the platform. The platform of the State convention would be very similar to that of the Pennsylvania democrats.

The nomination of Frank W. Hackett as Assistant Secretary of the Navy will probably go to the Senate this afternoon.

It is stated that the appointment would be made before the President left for New York. Mr. Hackett is at present a practicing attorney in Washington. His home is in Newcastle, N. H.

Admiral Dewey is not bothered about the grand stand reception in Chicago. The committee on reception has provided for a stand that is to be erected by the contractors. The union carpenters are disposed to make trouble and it is stated that they will erect a stand and ask Admiral Dewey to review the Chicago Dway day parade from it. The admiral said that he did not see how he could take any part in the controversy. He was the guest of the committee and he placed himself in their hands. The admiral was asked for an expression of opinion as to the effect on labor of the shutting down of the twelve mills of the American Steel and Wire Company. He laughed and said he did not care to discuss the subject.

No apology has been made by the government to the government of Spain for the alleged insult offered to the Spanish minister, the Duke D'Arcos, by the people of Chicago tendering him an invitation to attend the Dewey celebration, May 1, in honor of the anniversary of the victory of Manila Bay. A high official said today: "The Duke D'Arcos has made no complaint to the State Department and it is not believed that he will make any. No instructions have been sent to Minister Storer at Madrid concerning the matter and there will be no expression of opinion as to the effect on labor of the shutting down of the twelve mills of the American Steel and Wire Company. He laughed and said he did not care to discuss the subject."

The formal announcement that Senator Hanna will not go as a delegate-at-large from Ohio to the national republican convention and that Representative Grosvonts will be allowed to go in his place, has caused great interest in the Buckeye State. Senator Hanna and Representative Dick have received letters expressive of this opposition, announcing that Grosvonts's selection would be resented by many administration republicans and declaring that Senator Hanna himself should go, as his failure to do so might, outside of Ohio, be construed as a turn down. It is intimated that the Ohio convention may be called upon to break the slate to the extent of forcing the honor on Senator Hanna.

The President has endorsed the recommendation of the Secretary of State that Admiral Dewey and General Otis, though both are drawing large regular salaries, shall each be paid \$100,000 additional, as members of the first Philippine commission.

The Attorney General, in consequence of objection by Judge Paul to Charlottesville as a place for holding a term of the U. S. district court, was on the eve of recommending the President to veto the bill for that purpose, and would have done so but for the representations made to him by Senator Martin and Representative Hay.

The bill introduced by Representative Rixey, by request, for the coining of two hundred thousand silver half dollars to be stamped with a picture of the proposed Washington monument at Alexandria will, it is said in the room of the House committee on coinage today, be considered tomorrow, but will not be reported favorably.

Congressman Rixey, of the 8th Virginia district, made a speech in the House yesterday evening in favor of building government ships at government shipyards and of the government making its own armor plate and preventing the gouging to which it is now subjected by the Northern manufacturers of that plate.

Meet, if not all, the Virginia Congressmen have received protests from their city constituents against the bill to prohibit the use of alum in yeast powders. Diplomatic relations between the United States and Turkey may be broken off any day. The question of the claim of the United States for \$100,000 damages for the destruction of American church property during the Armenian outrages has reached a state of conclusion. A final demand for im-

mediate payment was sent to the Turkish government today. It does not threaten war in case the demand is not complied with, but states that unless there is a speedy settlement of the claim, diplomatic relations between the two governments will be severed. It was at the State Department today that the demand should be raised an order will be issued recalling Minister Strass from his post as the representative of this country at the Turkish capital. The Turkish Minister will then call on the State Department and request an explanation of the action. On being told he will ask for his passports. When these are given him all relations between the two governments will have ceased.

Speaker Henderson held a two hours' conference with the President this morning. While he would not talk for publication when he left the White House, it is stated that he decided upon the bills that shall be those that shall pass during the remainder of the session. The Speaker of the House solemnly visits the President. When he does it may be inferred that something of importance is on hand.

The President sent to the Senate today the bill of Frank W. Hackett, of New Hampshire to be Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

The following changes in the fourth-class postoffice of Virginia were made today: Perryman, Surry county, Mrs. R. L. W. Berryman, deceased; Clay Rank, Gloucester county, L. M. Newcomb, vice C. K. Weaver, resigned; Lone Oak, Henry county, Mrs. America A. Motley, vice J. M. Motley, resigned; Kingsport, Pittsylvania county, Billie B. Williams, vice W. W. Clark, resigned.

W. C. Hodskins, A. H. Buchanan and J. B. Baylor are the commissioners agreed upon by the governors of Virginia and Tennessee to reurvey and establish the true boundary line between Virginia and Tennessee, and will be named as such in the decree of the U. S. Supreme Court which will probably issue on Monday or Tuesday week.

The U. S. Senate today passed a resolution providing bronze medals for U. S. soldiers and sailors who displayed conspicuous bravery in the Spanish and Philippine wars.

A prominent and influential republican member of the House today expressed the opinion that Congress could not adjourn before the middle of June.

Capt. George F. Pickett, paymaster in the U. S. army, son of the late General Pickett, U. S. A., has been promoted to the rank of major.

The House committee on agriculture again considered the Great Outrage bill today and resisted the attempt of those supporting the measure to force an immediate favorable report on the measure. It was decided to allow the opponents of the bill an opportunity to be heard.

Democrats from New York City here today say ex-President Cleveland has written a letter to the anti-Bryan so-called democrats who are to have a banquet in Brooklyn tonight, in which, though not mentioning the name of Mr. Bryan, he expressed his objection to the principles and policies advocated by him and by the vast majority of the democrats of the country, and which will be endorsed by the national democratic convention that will renominate Mr. Bryan for the Presidency.

It is stated by "knowing ones" that Senator Quay will be seated on Tuesday next.

The Senate and House conference has agreed upon a form of government for Hawaii.

Objection is made in the British West India islands to the proposed treaty with the United States.

Residents of Cuba to the number of 68,506 have so far registered under the Foraker treaty, thus preserving their Spanish nationality.

Consideration of the Nicaraguan Canal bill by the House is asked on May 1, but it is not believed that the bill will be taken up this session.

According to Captain George A. Arins, retired officer of the army, over 20,000 men have left the country to join the Boer forces since the South African war began, last October.

Diplomatic relations between the United States and Turkey may soon be broken off because of the failure of the Sultan to make good his promise to pay the indemnity claims of the American missionaries.

During the consideration of the naval appropriation bill in the House yesterday the charge was made and denied that a lobby was at work to oppose the proposition for the government to build its own ships and armor plate.

A bill directing the Secretary of the Treasury to examine and resettle the accounts of certain States growing out of money expended by said States for military purposes during the war of 1812 was passed by the Senate yesterday.

TO-DAY'S TELEGRAPHIC NEWS

Foreign News.

Newmarket, Eng., April 18.—The race for the Victoria's Plate of 150 sovereigns, today, was won by Sloan, an Zanolli. Raby, another American jockey, was second on Egmont. Rigby is the latest American wonder, having ridden seven winners in the last three days.

Constantinople, April 18.—The Porte has replied to the representatives of the powers, adhering to the intention to increase import duties. The ambassadors yesterday addressed a second note of protest to the Turkish government and the question of increased import duties threatens to become serious.

Berlin, April 18.—While twenty members of the Catholic students' association were crossing the Rhine yesterday in a rowboat the boat struck an anchor chain and capsized. Thirteen of the students were drowned.

Cairo, April 18.—Bubonic plague has appeared at several points on the Red Sea.

Aden, British Gold Coast, April 18.—A British relieving force is nearing Kumassi, where Governor Hodgson is isolated. It is reported that the Ashantis are determined to bring matters to a crisis before the troops arrive. The British gunboat Magpie has landed blue-jackets at Cape Coast Castle above here.

Rome, April 18.—The strike of Italian workmen at Crotona landing, N. Y., has come to the attention of the Italian foreign office. The officials think that the expulsion of the strikers would be illegal. The foreign office has advised Baron Fava, the Italian ambassador at Washington, to render all assistance possible in the settlement of the strike.

London, April 18.—It is reliably reported that General Sir Charles Warren, who was in command of the troops at Spion kop, has been recalled.

The war office does not confirm the report. It is also rumored this afternoon that General Buller has asked to be relieved.

Paris, April 18.—A mass was said today for the late General De Villebois Mareuil, the French officer killed in South Africa, while fighting with the Boers. After the mass a mob marched through the streets cheering for the Boers and creating much disorder. Gen. Mercier, who attended the mass, was vociferously cheered.

London, April 18.—A dispatch from Henschel, Cape Colony, dated yesterday, says that the Boer patrols have reappeared on the Orange river.

The Striking Quarrymen.—Crotona Landi g. N. Y., April 18.—The contractors on the new dam played a strong card this morning to get the strikers to go back to work. Promptly at 6:15 the whistle was blown announcing that work would begin as usual and at 7 o'clock the work whistle was blown calling the men to their places. The contractors and soldiers waited for the Italians, but none came. When the time keeper made his report, it showed that 114 stone masons and hoisting engineers had responded—all Americans. Unless the quarrymen go to work everything will be at a standstill again.

The Italians say they will not give in. So far this morning there has not been the least semblance of any outbreak. The strikers realize that the work must stop soon as there is no stone. Should the contractors attempt to bring stone from the quarry the strikers will probably make an attempt to blow up the railroad track.

The Situation in South Africa.—London, April 18.—Aside from General Roberts's dispatch of yesterday saying that the British force at Wepener was still surrounded, there is nothing new from the theatre of war. The fact that all references whatsoever to the situation at Bloemfontein have now been suppressed leads many to believe that Roberts will begin his advance northward before the end of the present week. The publication of Gen. Roberts's criticism of Gen. Buller for the disaster of Spion kop while the latter is still actively in command in Natal, has created a sensation, and it is the opinion that the recall or resignation of Gen. Buller and Warren will follow as a matter of course.

Caused a Stampede.—Cincinnati, April 18.—A big bull walked into Mrs. Forrest's millinery store on Main street, yesterday afternoon. A dozen girls and women ran in all directions, many jumping out the back windows. Their screams attracted several hundred men, women and children to the spot but only one—a small boy—ventured into the store. The bull strolled leisurely through the store, attracted by the mirrors. After calmly surveying himself he was driven out by the boy.

Strike of Cigarmakers.—New York, April 18.—Gustav Simon, delegate of Cigar Packers' Union No. 251, announced this morning that 7,000 cigarmakers are now on a strike in this city. The eleven manufacturers affected are determined to crush the unions, Simon says, and the men are equally firm in their demands. The strikers ask \$7 per thousand cigars. All other labor organizations in the city have been requested to give every possible aid to the strikers' cause.

The Marketa.—Georgetown, April 18.—Wheat 68 3/4.

FOR GOEBEL'S MURDER.—The Franklin county, Ky., grand jury yesterday afternoon returned indictments against 10 persons, charging them with complicity in the murder of William Goebel.

The principals named are Henry E. Youtsey, James Howard, Berry Howard, Harland Whittaker and "Tallow Dick" Combs, colored. Those indicted as accessories before the fact are Secretary of State Caleb Powers, Capt. John T. Powers, ex-Secretary of State Charles Finley, W. H. Culton and F. Wharton Golden. In the indictment relating to the alleged accessories three other men are indirectly referred to as accessories, though no indictments were reported against them. They are W. S. Taylor, Green Golden and Capt. John Davis. Henry E. Youtsey, who is mentioned as the first principal, was a clerk in the office of State Auditor Sweeney.

The Franklin county grand jury today continued its work. Bench warrants were sent to Clay and Harlan counties for "Jim" and Berry Howard, two of the men against whom indictments were returned yesterday. More indictments are expected soon.

"No family can afford to be without One Minute Cough Cure. It will stop a cough and cure a cold quicker than any other medicine." writes C. W. Williams, Sterling Ky. It cures croup, bronchitis and all throat and lung troubles and prevents consumption, Pleurisy and hemorrhages.

FIFTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.

Washington, April 18.

SENATE.

Mr. Gallinger presented a resolution directing the Secretary of the Treasury to inform the Senate how much money has been collected from the stamp taxes under the war revenue bill. There was republican objection to it and it went over until tomorrow.

A resolution was adopted authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to strike medals to be distributed to officers and men who participated in important naval engagements in the Spanish-American war.

Mr. Chandler introduced a bill for the prevention of the denial or abridgment of the right of citizens of the United States to vote, on account of color.

Mr. Hale, from the committee on naval affairs, reported an amendment to the naval appropriation bill authorizing the President to purchase from the government of Spain, for a sum not to exceed \$200,000, the ten thousand ton steel floating steel drydock in the harbor of Havana, Cuba, \$225,000 in appropriation for making the purchase.

At the conclusion of routine business, one desiring to speak on the Quay case, the Alaska code bill was taken up. Mr. Stewart securing the floor for an extended speech upon his amendment relating to mining on the coast of the territory.

HOUSE.—The House at once resumed consideration of the naval appropriation bill after assembling.

Mr. Kitchen made the point of order against the appropriation of half a million to meet unforeseen contingencies for the navy to be expended at the discretion of the President. The point was voted down 93, to 21. A motion was then made to strike out this appropriation.

The motion to strike out the appropriation for contingent expenses was defeated by a vote of 104 to 90.

TELEGRAPHIC BREVITIES.

At a recent meeting of the Bar Mill Association in Pittsburg, Pa., the price of steel bars was fixed at 2 cents per pound, which means a drop of \$5 per ton. Steel bars were selling at \$2.25 per 100 pounds.

The discovery that the bonds of the Northwestern Gaslight and Coke Company, of Evanston, Ill., had been forged and that a large quantity of them had been floated, is expected to lead to the finding of an establishment in the East which for many months has been forging bonds of many industrial corporations.

The trial of Col. David D. Colson, the ex-Congressman who participated in a duel last January in which three men were killed, and several others injured himself among them, began at Frankfort, Ky., today.

All of the largest breweries of Louisville have sold out to a New York Chicago syndicate, and only three will be operated in the future.

The wire and nail mill of the American Steel and Wire Co., at New Castle, Pa., is shut down.

James Edmonson Cannon and Miss Virginia Bernard Harvie were married yesterday at Grace Episcopal Church, Richmond.

In Norfolk, yesterday, Silas Washington, in a fit of rage, shot through a window at what he supposed was his sweetheart, Minerva Young, but killed her mother.

William G. Stannard, secretary of the Virginia Historical Society, and Miss Mary Mann Page Newton were married at Holy Trinity Church in Richmond yesterday.

In Rappahannock county last week the jury in the case against Russell Campbell brought in a verdict of guilty of voluntary manslaughter and fixed his punishment at four years in the penitentiary. Richard Campbell, after being fatally shot, said Russell Campbell told him, following him 50 yards before he fell dead.

At Charlottesville yesterday Princeton beat the University of Virginia in a game of base ball by a score of 9 to 3.

THE EPISCOPAL BISHOPS.—Many important matters will be discussed at the meeting of the Protestant Episcopal Church bishops which will be held tomorrow and the day following in New York.

The bishops will consider the resignation of Bishop Jackson, coadjutor of the Diocese of Alabama. Bishop Jackson presented his resignation last January owing to certain rumors of intemperance that were circulated concerning him. Bishop Jackson has denied the truth of the rumors, but since his resignation he has not exercised any of the functions of his office. It is unusual, but not unprecedented, for a bishop to resign. Bishop Jackson was a coadjutor only, but he had the right of succession. His senior, Bishop Wilmer, is the third oldest of living Episcopal bishops, having been consecrated in 1862. Bishop Whipple, of Minnesota, who recently returned from Porto Rico, is extremely desirous that a bishop of Porto Rico shall be elected at once. He says that the condition of the Episcopal Church affairs there demands an overseer and an organizer. It is said that if the matter of support can be arranged a bishop of Porto Rico will be chosen at this meeting.

CITY COUNCIL.

The attempt to hold a joint meeting of the City Council last night miscarried, as has been the case several times during the past year, the Board of Aldermen declining the invitation to meet the Common Council in joint session. The meeting was called by the Mayor for the purpose of calling the attention of Council to the fact that the office of City Engineer was vacant, as well as that of Superintendent of Gas. Communications of the Mayor giving his reason for calling the meeting were sent to both branches; and his message urging the necessity of having suitable men at the head of these departments was transmitted to the lower board. More than the usual number of spectators were present, but the proceedings, were short and disappointing.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

All the Aldermen were present.

After the clerk had read the call of the Mayor,

Mr. Hill offered a resolution authorizing the Presidents of the two boards and the committee on streets to designate at once a board of examiners to examine candidates for the position of City Engineer, and report the result immediately to Council.

Mr. Hill said he introduced the resolution for the purpose of facilitating the matter, and as the meeting of Council had been called to consider the question of the office of City Engineer.

The resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Clark subsequently introduced a resolution, which was passed by a unanimous vote, requesting the Mayor to have Penny Hill burying ground cleaned up and the fencing repaired at a cost not to exceed \$20. Mr. Clark explained the urgent need of the work required.

Mr. Ballenger, after the Mayor's message referring to the vacancies in the offices of City Engineer and Superintendent of Gas had been received from the lower board and read, saw no good reason for making two bites at a cherry. Council would do nothing in regard to the office of City Engineer until an examination of candidates be held. The city would get along a short time without a Superintendent of Gas, and that officer and a City Engineer could be elected at the same time.

Mr. Hill agreed with Mr. Ballenger. Some members of the lower board, who could not be present, would like to be on hand when these matters were considered. The regular meeting would take place next Tuesday.

Mr. Burke, from the Common Council, at this juncture entered the chamber bearing an invitation for the Aldermen to meet the lower board in joint session.

Mr. W. H. Sweeney, referring to Mr. Hill's remarks, said the candidates for City Engineer might not be ready at the next meeting.

Mr. Hill said they would be if the provisions of his resolution were carried out.

Mr. Marbury, alluding to the office of Superintendent of Gas, said the present incumbent had been deemed incompetent, and at present there was but one available candidate, he only having passed the examination.

Mr. Ballenger said the gentleman referred to had passed the examination, but he might be proficient in theory, only, and not in practice. He was not ready to enter into an election under the circumstances.

Mr. W. H. Sweeney thought all invitations to participate in a joint meeting should be accepted and—

Mr. Ballenger—"I'm only speaking for myself; that's all."

Mr. J. T. Sweeney favored accepting the invitation and gave a succinct history of the legislation which had led up to the present crisis. He was proceeding with his remarks when Mr. Smith, of the Common Council, appeared in the chamber and stated that he had been authorized to inquire if the Aldermen intended to accept the invitation to a joint session. If not, his board was ready to adjourn.

Mr. Sweeney, continuing, said it was to be regretted that no Alexandria could be found who was qualified to hold the position, but the candidate who had passed the examination was doubtless a practical man.

Mr. Ballenger—"Do you know whether or not he ever managed a gas plant?"

Mr. Sweeney—"I do not, but I'm willing to take the opinion of the examiners as to his ability."

A vote was finally taken on the invitation of the lower board, and the chair being unable to decide by the voices heard, the roll was called with the following result: Ayes, Messrs. Curtin, W. H. Sweeney, J. T. Sweeney and Mr. President—4. Noes, Messrs. Hill, Double, Ballenger and Clark—4.

On motion of Mr. J. T. Sweeney the board then adjourned.

COMMON COUNCIL.

The board met soon after the hour appointed and Mr. Snowden was called to the chair. Twelve members were present.

A communication from the Mayor was read setting out that he had called the Council together in order to consider the propriety of acting upon the subject of securing a city engineer and electing a superintendent of gas.

After a recess had been taken to await the action of the Board of Aldermen, but nothing coming in from that board,

The chairman resumed his seat and asked what order of business should be pursued.

Mr. Smith asked what business was before the Council.

The chair—"Nothing but the Mayor's message and recommendation."

Mr. Smith—"I move to adjourn."

Mr. Burke asked if it was not proposed to elect a superintendent of the gas works.

The chair stated that a motion to adjourn was pending and must first be acted upon.

The motion to adjourn was then put and lost.

Mr. Burke moved that the Aldermen be invited to joint session to elect a superintendent of gas.

At this juncture a resolution was received from the Aldermen, directing the presidents of the two boards and the committee on streets to appoint at once examiners for candidates for the position of city engineer.

Mr. Lawler thought that as President Strider was absent from the city the acting president should be authorized by the resolution to select one of the experts.

The chair responded that the law was imperative and could not be changed by a resolution. He hoped that the Board of Aldermen would come in and Council could have a friendly conference with the Aldermen on the subject. He presumed all the members wished to act in the interest of the city.

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Mr. Evans was in favor of abolishing the examinations which cost much and amounted to little, and suggested that the ordinance requiring a board of experts should be repealed.

The matter was allowed to lay over for the present and Mr. Burke's motion to invite the Aldermen to joint session for the purpose of electing a gas superintendent was adopted.

Mr. Burke was then requested to invite the Aldermen into the Council Chamber. He retired and soon returned, saying he believed the Aldermen would accept the invitation.

An order which passed unanimously, appropriating \$20 to clear up the corporation burial ground at Penny Hill, came in from the Aldermen.

Mr. Evans objected and said that when the board had acted upon the business which called it together he would move to adjourn.

The chair said it would require unanimous consent to consider the matter and the objection of Mr. Evans would postpone action.

It then became noised about that the Aldermen would not accept the invitation to a joint session.

Mr. Smith suggested that it would be well to ascertain what the Aldermen intended to do in the matter.

Mr. Smith was requested to inquire of the Aldermen if they intended to unite in the joint session.

Mr. Smith left the chamber quickly followed by Mr. Burke.

Mr. Smith soon returned and stated that he had been informed by the President of the Board of Aldermen that the motion to join the Common Council in joint session for the purpose of electing a superintendent of gas had been defeated by a tie vote—4 to 4.

A motion to adjourn was then made and carried and the meeting was without result.

Had an election been held Mr. C. C. Bayly, of the Washington gas works, would have been chosen superintendent of gas, because he is now the only person who can be a candidate under the laws of the city, he alone having been reported qualified by the board of experts. The failure of the two boards to agree leaves the status unchanged, with Mr. E. M. Latham as superintendent of gas.